

-- For type II PKS, the following two pairs of degenerate primers were used—5'-AGC TCC ATC AAG TCS ATG RTC GG-3' (forward, SEQ ID NO:102) / 5'-CC GGT GTT SAC SGC GTA GAA CCA GGC G-3' (reverse, SEQ ID NO:103) and 5'-GAC ACV GCN TGY TCB TCV-3' (forward, SEQ ID NO:104)/5'-RTG SGC RTT VGT NCC RCT-3' (SEQ ID NO:105) (B, C+G+T; N, A+C+G+T; R, A+G; S, C+G; V, A+C+G; Y, C+T) (reverse) (Seow *et al.* (1997) *J. Bacteriol.*, 179: 7360-7368). No product was amplified under all conditions tested. For type I PKS, the following pair of degenerate primers were used—5'-GCS TCC CGS GAC CTG GGC TTC GAC TC-3' (forward, SEQ ID NO:106) / 5'-AG SGA SGA SGA GCA GGC GGT STC SAC-3' (S, G+C) (reverse, SEQ ID NO:107) (Kakavas *et al.* (1997) *J. Bacteriol.*, 179: 7515-7522). A distinctive product with the predicted size of 0.75 kb was amplified in the presence of 20% glycerol and cloned into pGEM-T according to the protocol provided by the manufacturer (Promega) to yield pBS1001.

For NGDH, the following pair of degenerate primers were used 5'-CS GGS GSS GCS GGS TTC ATC GG-3' (forward, SEQ ID NO:108) / 5'-GG GWR CTG GYR SGG SCC GTA GTT G-3' (R, A+G; S, C+G; W, A+T; Y, C+T) (reverse, SEQ ID NO:109) (Decker, *et al.* (1996) *FEMS Lett.*, 141: 195-201). A distinctive product with the predicted size of 0.55 kb was amplified and cloned into pGEM-T to yield pBS1002.

For *cagA*, the following pair of primers, flanking its coding region, were used—5'-AG GTG GAG GCG CTC ACC GAG-3' (forward, SEQ ID NO:110)/5'-G GGC GTC AGG CCG TAA GAA G-3' (reverse, SEQ ID NO:111) (Sakata *et al.* (1992) *Biosci. Biotechnol. Biochem.*, 56: 159201595). A distinctive product with the predicted size of 0.73 kb was amplified from pBS1005 and cloned into pGEM-T to yield pBS1003. --

In accordance with 37 CFR §1.121 a marked up version of the above-amended paragraph(s) illustrating the changes introduced by the forgoing amendment(s) are provided in Appendix A.

REMARKS

Status of the Claims.

Claims 1-71 are pending with entry of this amendment, no claims being cancelled and no claims being added herein. The amendments to the specification introduce no new matter and are made simply to conform the claim cross-references to the SEQ ID NOs in the accompanying sequence listing.